

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

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1. A microelectronic device, comprising:  
a substrate;  
a semi-insulating silicon carbide layer formed on the substrate; and  
a first semiconductor device formed on the semi-insulating silicon carbide  
layer.

2. The device of Claim 1, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer  
is formed epitaxially.

3. The device of Claim 2, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer  
comprises boron.

4. The device of Claim 2, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer  
comprises a transition metal.

5. The device of Claim 3, wherein the first semiconductor device is a high  
frequency device.

6. The device of Claim 4, wherein the first semiconductor device is a high  
power device.

7. The device of Claim 1, wherein the substrate is a conductor.

8. The device of Claim 1, wherein the substrate comprises n<sup>+</sup> silicon  
carbide.

9. The device of Claim 1, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer  
comprises 6H silicon carbide.

10. The device of Claim 1, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide  
layer comprises 4H silicon carbide.

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11. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device  
comprises silicon carbide.

12. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device  
comprises a metal-oxide-semiconductor field effect transistor.

5        13. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device  
comprises a lateral metal-oxide-semiconductor field effect transistor.

14. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device  
comprises a bipolar junction transistor.

10      15. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device  
comprises a junction field effect transistor.

16. The device of Claim 1, further comprising:  
at least a second semiconductor device.

17. The device of Claim 16, wherein the at least a second semiconductor  
device is found on a portion of the substrate that is physically isolated from the first  
15      semiconductor device.

18. The device of Claim 16, wherein the at least a second semiconductor  
device is found on a portion of the substrate that is electrically isolated from the  
first semiconductor device.

19. The device of Claim 1, wherein the first semiconductor device is  
20      formed epitaxially.

20. A method for forming a microelectronic device, comprising:  
forming a semi-insulating silicon carbide layer on a substrate; and  
forming a first semiconductor device on the semi-insulating silicon carbide  
layer.

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21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the substrate is a conductor.

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer is formed epitaxially.

23. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer comprises boron.

5           24. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer comprises a transition metal.

25. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide is formed using site competition epitaxy.

10          26. The method of Claim 20, wherein forming a semi-insulating silicon carbide layer comprises:

               providing a source of silicon;

               providing a source of carbon; and

               varying a relative concentration of the silicon to the carbon, such that site competition epitaxy occurs.

15          27. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer is formed using boron nitride.

28. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer is formed using diborane.

20          29. The method of Claim 20, wherein forming a semi-insulating silicon carbide layer comprises:

               supplying a transition metal from a source, wherein the source is selected from a group consisting of a solid source, an organometallic liquid, and a non-organic gas.

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30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the solid source comprises one selected from a group consisting of vanadium nitride and vanadium carbide.

31. The method of Claim 20, wherein forming the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer comprises:

5           supplying an impurity from a source, the impurity being selected from a group consisting of germanium and chromium.

32. The method of Claim 20, wherein the first semiconductor device is formed epitaxially.

10           33. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer has a thickness and a leakage current, the leakage current varying as a function of the thickness and a voltage applied to the microelectronic device.

34. The method of Claim 33, wherein the leakage current varies as a function of  $V^2/L^3$ , where  $V$  = the voltage applied and  $L$  = the thickness of the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer.

15           35. The method of Claim 34, wherein the thickness is at least about 10 micrometers for the voltage of about 350 Volts.

36. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer is formed such that the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer has much greater thermal conductivity than a silicon-dioxide layer.

20           37. The method of Claim 20, wherein the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer is formed such that the semi-insulating silicon carbide layer conducts more than 200 times as much heat as a silicon-dioxide layer per unit area.